

WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:

1. A method for simple operation, maintenance, or configuration of an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

with aid of an operating unit, outputting a graphical user interface with at least one first graphical representation of the printing or copying system;

selecting a displayed assembly group of the printing or copying system with aid of the first graphical representation; and

via said selected displayed assembly group at least one item of information about the selected assembly group is output with aid of the graphical user interface.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one item of information is output with aid of at least one of a second graphical representation of the printing or copying system, a table with at least one of measurement values and default values , and a text field.

3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the second graphical representation comprises a graphical representation of a selected structural unit that has been enlarged with regard to the first graphical representation.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein at least one of an error notice and a warning notice is provided in at least one of the first and second graphical representations and that refers to at least one of a faulty assembly group and a faulty structural element.

5. The method according to claim 2 wherein at least the second graphical representation is a schematic drawing with error-relevant details of the printing or copying system.

6. The method according to claim 4 wherein the warning notice is shown with aid of a yellow color, and the error notice is shown with aid of a red color.

7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the graphical user interface comprises a section in which all selectable graphical representations and user interfaces are comprised of menu items and are selectable via these menu items.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein at least one item of the information about a data interface is read out from a databank.

9. The method according to claim 8 wherein data are transmitted between the databank and the operating unit via a network connection.

10. A system for simple operation, maintenance, or configuration of an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

an operating unit connected with the printing or copying system via a data line;

a graphical user interface is output on a display unit of the operating unit, the graphical user interface comprising at least one graphical representation of the printing or copying system;

an assembly group of the printing or copying system in the graphical representation selectable with aid of the graphical user interface; and

via said selectable assembly group at least one item of information being output that pertains to the selectable assembly group.

11. A graphical user interface for simple operation, maintenance, or configuration of an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

an assembly group of the printing or copying system selectable with aid of the graphical representation; and

at least one item of information that pertains to said assembly group output via said selectable assembly group.

12. A method for configuring an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

providing a first data set and at least one second data set stored in a databank, the first data set comprising at least a value of a first default value and a second data set comprising at least a value of a second default value;

with aid of a first program element, reading out the value of the first default value and the value of the second default value from the databank with databank interrogation commands;

transmitting data with the value of the first default value and with the value of the second default value to a first data processing system of an operating unit of the printing or copying system, whereby the data are supplied to a second program element executed via the first data processing system;

transmitting the data to a second data processing system of the printing or copying system via a data connection with aid of the second program element; and

transmitting the data to the second program element with aid of a platform-independent socket interface.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the databank queries are instructions of a query language that is supported by the databank.

14. The method according to claim 13 wherein the query language is SQL.

15. The method according to claim 12 wherein the databank instructions are comprised in a script that is created with aid of a scripting language, whereby the databank interrogation commands are implemented in succession.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein the script is a Java script.

17. The method according to claim 15 wherein the script comprises a sequence of at least one of instructions and parameters.

18. The method according to claim 12 wherein at least one of the first and second data set comprises further information about at least one of a value range, measurement units, calculation factors, numerical values, and a plain text description of the default value, whereby a part of the information comprised in the data set is selected with aid of the databank interrogation command.

19. The method according to any of the claim 12 wherein the operating unit is a service and maintenance computer that is connected for at least one of operation, maintenance and configuration of the printing or copying system.

20. The method according to claim 12 wherein a transmission of the value of the first default value and the value of the second default value occurs between the first data processing system and the second data processing system with aid of a remote method invocation communication.

21. The method according to claim 12 wherein communication between the first program element and the second program element occurs with aid of a socket.

22. The method according to claims 12 wherein a first network connection is provided between the databank and the first data processing system, and a second network connection is provided between the first data processing system and the second data processing system.

23. The method according to claims 12 wherein the second program element is a signed JAVA applet that is executed with help of a JAVA runtime program environment of a browser program module executed by the first data processing system.

24. The method according to claims 12 wherein the values of the default values are stored in a database of the printing or copying system.

25. A system for configuring an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

a first data set and at least one second data set stored in a databank, the first data set comprising at least a value of a first default value and the second data set comprising at least a value of a second default value;

a first program element provided with databank interrogation commands and wherein given a processing of the commands the value of the first default value and the value of the second default value being read out from the databank;

the first data processing system executing a second program element to which the data are transmitted, the transmission of the data to the second program element occurring with aid of a platform-independent socket interface; and

a data connection via which the data are transmitted from the first data processing system to a second data processing system of the printing or copying system with aid of the second program element.

26. The system according to claim 25 wherein a dialog serves to transmit data between the databank and the first data processing system and between the first data processing system and the second data processing system.

27. A method for control of an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

with the aid of an operating unit, outputting a graphical user interface with at least graphical representation of the printing or copying system, and another graphical representation of a selected structural unit which is an enlargement of a portion of the at least one graphical representation;

selecting a displayed assembly group of the printing or copying system with aid of the second graphical representation; and

via said selected displayed assembly group at least one item of information about the selected assembly group is output with aid of the graphical user interface.

28. A method for configuring an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

providing a first stored data set and at least one second stored dataset, the first data set comprising at least a value of a first default value and a second dataset comprising at least a value of a second default value;

with aid of a first program element, reading out the value of the first default value and the value of the second default value with interrogation commands;

transmitting data with the value of the first default value and with the value of the second default value to a first data processing system of an operating unit of the printing or copying system, whereby the data are supplied to a second program element executed via the first data processing system;

transmitting the data to a second data processing system of the printing or copying system via a data connection with aid of the second program element; and

transmitting the data to the second program element.